

18 February 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: General Scowcroft's Comments on DCI's Speech
to Senate Select Committee

Richard Ober called this evening about 1815 and passed along the following comments of General Scowcroft on the DCI's speech.

"I believe that the substantive comments regarding CIA organizations, operations, and relations with American firms and individuals are already in the public domain. I would certainly not broaden public discussions in any of those areas.

"Paragraph 2, Page 4: I can see nothing in the refutation which disputes the allegation. Here I believe for the first time the Agency admits that it does maintain independent corporate structures. If that has not been stated before, I see no reason to do it now. In any event, the only difference between the allegation and the refutation is the statement that corporate structures are meticulously managed.

"Last paragraph, Page 4: I do not believe the truculent tone of this paragraph is necessary. Would it not be better to say that there have been some allegations about CIA involvement in Watergate and that such allegations are false?

"Paragraph 1, Page 6: The illustrative example could raise more questions than it answers. I would be inclined to get more persuasive examples or pass on that one.

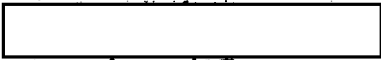
"Page 13: There seems to be some confusion here. The main paragraph states that CIA may have on occasion exceeded its proper bounds. Yet in the discussion of those in the (?) paragraph, the statement is made that they were all undertaken in the belief

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that they were within the Agency's charter and responsibilities. If they were in fact undertaken in that spirit, who decided that they were outside the charter, under what sorts of guidelines, etc. ? It is not clear how it has been judged that a) the people thought they were acting within the charter and mission b) it has been determined that they were not.

"Last sentence of the first paragraph, Page 16: The reference to 'painful hangnails' is another of a series of statements which give the document a rather apologetic tone tending to emphasize mistakes rather than accomplishments.

"Page 19: I think we need adequate legislative protection for more than intelligence sources and methods."


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